

CAVERSHAM PARK
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Holy Communion Service order
(Sunday 7th May 2023)
Easter 5 - Year A

**Easter 5 service with Holy Communion
at Caversham Park URC (Forth Order)**

Opening Hymn: What Does The Lord Require of You

(On Screen)

Let us worship God.

This is the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord;
for God's love endures for ever.

Our service today looks at stories from the Bible that tell us about the "People of the Way" and how Jesus tells us "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me".

O God, we thank you and praise you for this day and for the opportunity you have given us in this good land to gather and to worship you without fear. Most Holy God, we pray that you would be with us in this place of praise and prayer and that through the ministry of your Holy Spirit you would form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found and that our every action might show forth the light of your Son, Christ Jesus our Lord, he who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn 2 – Come In, Come In and Sit Down

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for forgiveness

On screen

Lord God most merciful, we confess that we have sinned, through our own fault, and in common with others, in thought, word and deed, and through what we have left undone.

We ask to be forgiven.

By the power of your Spirit, turn us from evil to good, help us to forgive others, and keep us in your ways of righteousness and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In repentance and in faith receive the promise of grace and the assurance of pardon. Here are words you may trust, words that merit full acceptance: 'Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.' Your sins are forgiven for his sake. **Amen.**

Gloria

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, goodwill towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,

have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen

On screen**Thanks be to God**

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Toast to the King and Queen:

A Toast to King Charles defender of the faith and Queen Camila

(Small cups to be given out)

O Lord, You order and govern our world and all that is therein, bless, we pray, for Charles and Camilla as our earthly King and Queen, crowned and anointed, in your loving presence, we pray that they may fulfil the roles prescribed for them, and that we may, in this kingdom, be better governed, and always King of Kings our Lord Jesus Christ be reminded of your eternal Kingdom which is to come.

Amen

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour: look with favour upon thy servant Charles our King, and bestow upon him such gifts of wisdom, and love that we and all thy people may live in peace and prosperity and in loving service one to another; to thine eternal glory, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Reading 1 - Acts 7:55-60

Reading 2 – 1 Peter 2:2-10

Hymn 3 – The Church is one foundation

Gospel – John 14:1-14

Sermon – People of the way

Hymn 4 – O Lord my God – How great thou art

Intercessions**Gracious words**

Hear the gracious words of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. *John 6:35*

Anyone who comes to me, I will never drive away. *John 5:37*

The Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Peace be with you.

Hymn 5 - Jesus is King and I will extol Him**The Narrative of the Institution of the Lord's Supper**

Hear the narrative of the institution of the Lord's Supper as it was recorded by the apostle Paul.

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. *1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

The Taking of the Bread and wine

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and following his example, we take this bread and this cup, and give thanks to God.

The Thanksgiving (*On Screen*)

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

With joy we give you thanks and praise, Almighty God, Source of all life and love, that we live in your world, that you are always creating and sustaining it by your power, and that you have so made us that we can know and love you, trust and serve you. We give you thanks that you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him may not die but have eternal life.

We praise you that he is the light of the world through whom we are brought out of darkness into light, and that by him your glory has been revealed to the nations.

Therefore with all the company of heaven, and with all your people, of all places and times, we proclaim your greatness and sing your praise.

(On Screen)

Holy, holy, holy Lord

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy Lord God, by what we do herein remembrance of Christ we celebrate his perfect sacrifice on the Cross and his glorious resurrection and ascension; we declare that he is Lord of all; and we prepare for his coming in his kingdom. We pray that through your Holy Spirit this bread may be for us the body of Christ and this wine the blood of Christ. Accept our sacrifice of praise; and as we eat and drink at his command unite us to Christ as one body in him, and give us strength to serve you in the world. And to you, one holy and eternal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we give praise and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer *(On Screen)*

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed
took bread and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and said, 'This is my body which is for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way also the cup saying
'This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.'

If the narrative of the institution has been used earlier in the service, as the bread is broken the minister may say:

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

And as the cup is raised the minister may say:

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Distribution of the Bread and Wine then follows with the following hymn:

Hymn 6 – Broken for you

The Acclamation *(On Screen)*

Let us praise the Lord.

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.
Blessing and honour and glory
and power be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

(On Screen)

Most gracious God, we praise you for what you have given and for what you have promised us here. You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service.

Now we give ourselves to you; and we ask that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and that our love may be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

Offerings

Loving God, you have raised up Jesus from the dead and you have prepared a place in your eternal home for all who follow him. We bring our lives and gifts to you as a sign of our new life and new hope in You. May all that we say, and all that we do, be in response to your love - a love offered freely to all people through Christ our Lord. Amen

Dismissal and Blessing:

In the power of the Holy Spirit, we now go forth into the world, to fulfil our calling as the people of God, the body of Christ.

Go in peace as people of the way, love and care for another in the name of Christ Jesus - and may the blessings of his Father and ours go with you, may the Holy Spirit uphold you and sustain you, and may the Son shine upon the path you walk and guide you day by day, till you join all the saints and angels arrive in the place of everlasting glory. **Amen.**

Hymn 7 – To show by Touch and Word.